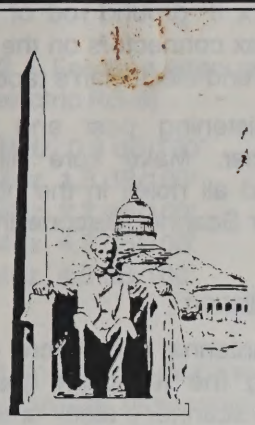

The CAPITOL HILL MONITOR

NOVEMBER 1992

FOOTBALL SEASON, RFK AND SCANNERS

By Alan Henney

By the time you read this, we'll be in the midst of football season. Listening to game related activity on the scanner can often be more entertaining than watching the game itself.

Even if you don't attend the game, you'll still receive game related activity on many of these frequencies. If you actually go to RFK, please pay special attention to 153.98, 453.525 and 458.525 and let me know what you hear.

153.9800	s	Armory Board
154.2350	s	DCFD Stadium Command
161.3850	r	WMATA Police
161.7000	s	WMAL's Andy Parks
450.9125	r	Metro Traffic Control
450.9250	s	Mutual Radio Network
453.5250	?	DC Special PD (also try 458.525)
460.2750	r	MPD SOD stadium detail
463.8000	r	DC Lottery Sales
464.3750	r	F1: RFK Operations
464.6750	s	F2: RFK Operations
852.6625	s	EAB/EMS supervisors

These frequencies are just to help get you started! While at the stadium, give the 450 and 455 MHz media bands a try. Search for the numerous wireless microphones (both team and broadcast) between 168 and 216 MHz. The Redskins at one time operated (and may still operate) on 181.0.

* * *

After reading Jack Anderson's excellent article on installing a super discone antenna in the May issue, I put many of his suggestions to work. If you need a copy of the May issue, or any other newsletter issue for that matter, please contact Mike (703-902-6241).

Fall is the perfect time of year to install a new scanner antenna - right in time for those long winter days! If you're not already contemplating such an installation at the present time, you probably will after reading the second half of Jack's interesting article. I picked up many tips from Jack's article, and I think the rest of us will as well. Our congratulations go to both Jack and his wife on the birth of their second child.

INSTALL A "SUPER" DISCONE SCANNER ANTENNA (Part 2 of 2)

By FrequencyForum Sysop Jack Anderson

Planning the Installation

The first step in antenna installation, before you make the trip to pick up supplies, is to survey the job and develop a plan for the installation. Start at one end of the installation, for example, the antenna, and mentally go over every step involved. Write down the major tasks and note the materials and tools required for each step. When making your plan, keep in mind that you want to do as much as possible on the ground as opposed to on the roof. Go over your plan a couple of times until you are certain you have covered everything, then purchase any tools or supplies you may not already have for the job.

Prepare the Cable

Attach the antenna connector to one end of the coax connector. Installation instructions for most connectors can be found in the ARRL Handbook.

Construct the Antenna

Follow the manufacturer's instructions and build the antenna. Your discone antenna probably has a small mast that attaches to the base of the antenna over the connector. If so, feed the coax through the small mast section and attach the connector to the antenna, using a pair of pliers to tighten it. Seal the connection with a layer of connector seal, then two to three layers of electrician's tape.

Attach the small section of mast to the base of the discone over the connector, then mount the assembled antenna and small mast section to your antenna mast. Use four to five wraps of electrician's tape to secure the cable to the antenna mast near the top, and again about halfway down. If you are using guy wires for your installation, consider attaching them now while the antenna is on the ground, especially if the guy wire clamp will be located at a point on the mast that will be out of reach once the antenna mast is secured in the mount.

Install the Mount

Attach the antenna mount to the appropriate location on the roof. If you are using guy wires, attach the screw eyes to the roof at three or four points around the antenna mount location. Attach the screw eyes five to 10 feet away from the mount, in a triangle pattern if you are using three guys or diamond if you are using four guys. Get as much preparation work done here before you bring the antenna up to the roof.

Installing the Antenna

When you have completed all of the preparation work on the ground and roof that can be done, get on the roof and either have your helper hand you the antenna/mast assembly or pull it up with some rope. If you are using guy wires, be sure to attach them to the mast before you raise it if the guy clamp will be too high to reach once the antenna is placed in the mount.

Place the antenna mast in the mount and tighten the clamp bolts while your helper holds it in place. Use a level to ensure that the mast is plumb while it is being clamped in place. If you are using guy wires in your installation, run them to the screw eyes after the mount clamps are tightened. Adjust the tension on each guy wire until the tension on each is approximately the same and the antenna mast is plumb. Seal the screw eyes with roof sealant. Run the coax down to your radio using your planned route. Attach the coax to your house using 1/2" EMT clamps or coax nails. Running the cable next to gutters or siding molding can improve the appearance of the installation.

Enter the house by using an existing hole or by drilling a 1/2" hole through the wall and fishing the cable through. A feed-through tube can make the job easier. Some people choose to make the hole larger than necessary to allow for future installations. A 1" to 2" hole with a piece of PVC pipe is ideal, and can be sealed with end caps or duct seal compound. Place a drip loop in the cable where it enters the house so water falls off the cable before the cable reaches the entry point. Attach your ground wire clamp to the mast. Run your ground wire to the cold water pipe, ground rod or electrical system ground, and attach to the ground point using the appropriate ground clamp.

At some point along the cable, either outside or inside the house (preferably outside), cut the cable and install two connectors for your lightning arrestor. Install the lightning arrestor in-line at this point and run a ground wire from it to a cold water pipe, 5/8" x 8' ground rod or electrical system ground. Seal the coax connectors on the lightning arrestor with connector seal and electrician's tape.

Run the cable to your listening post and install a connector for your scanner. Make sure all ground connections are secure and all holes in the house and roof are sealed. Your Super Scanner Discone installation is now compete.

Trouble-Shooting Your Installation

After you complete your antenna installation, check its performance by comparing the reception quality of a known weak signal on your scanner's stock antenna and your new discone. You should hear a marked difference in received signal strength. Next, try to tune a few distant stations that you may have previously been unable to receive indoors.

If you can't hear a noticeable difference between the new rooftop antenna and your built-in antenna on weak signals, or, if signals that are strong on the built-in antenna sound weak on the new rooftop antenna, you may have a problem with one of the connectors. Check the connectors for short or open circuits.

If you live within a mile or two of an area with a large number of radio transmitters (Tyson's Corner for example), your new antenna setup may cause degradation in performance on some bands. Extremely strong local signals from high-power transmitters, such as paging transmitters, can overload your receiver's front end making it difficult to copy weak signals. Some scanners come with a built-in attenuator that reduces incoming signals by 10 dB, which is usually enough to cure front end overload problems. External attenuators can be purchased for scanners that do not have built in switchable attenuators.

Preamps

Preamps can be useful in installations that have long feedline runs between the antenna and radio. The preamp will not help if it is installed at the radio. In order for it to be effective, it must be installed at the antenna. If you have problems with receiver front end overload without a preamp, installing one will only make the overload problem worse.

Mast mounted preamps for scanners consist of a power supply, power inserter and preamp. The power supply and power inserter are installed inside, and together they place the supply voltage for the preamp directly on the coax, where it is fed to the preamp mounted on the antenna mast.

The purpose of a preamp is to give signals a boost before they enter the feedline, so the loss of the feedline can be overcome. The preamp you choose should have enough gain to overcome the cable loss of your feedline on the highest frequency you plan to monitor, with 2 or 3 dB left over.

Feedline attenuation is expressed in dB per 100' at various frequencies. Refer to Table 2 on the next page.

Table 2 - Feedline Attenuation of Belden 9913 (Air-dielectric RG-8)

50	MHz	0.9 dB/100'
100	MHz	1.3 dB/100'
400	MHz	2.7 dB/100'
900	MHz	4.2 dB/100'
1000	MHz	4.5 dB/100'

Adding an outside discone antenna can greatly enhance your enjoyment of scanning. If you normally listen with a rubber duck or telescoping antenna inside of your house, you will notice improvement on the signals you already listen to - with a whole new world of stations that you've never been able to hear before. Even attic mounted antennas can make a big difference.

Recommended Reading

The ARRL Handbook and ARRL Antenna Book contain a wealth of useful information on installation tools, methods, supplies and safety practices. Both can be obtained at EEB, or from a local library.

Supply Checklist

Here is a list of tools and parts you might need in your installation. Check it to determine which apply to your particular installation.

Antenna (ICOM, Diamond, Nevada or Radio Shack discone recommended)

Cable (Belden 9913 or International 9086)

Connectors (as needed for your cable, antenna and lightning arrestor)

Connector Seal (Radio Shack, "stretchy" rubber tape)

Electrician's tape (any vinyl UL listed 3/4" electrician's tape)

Mast (as needed for your installation)

Mount (as needed for your installation)

Ground wire (12 AWG or larger, length as needed)

Ground rod (5/8" x 8', copper clad)

Ground wire clamps (for antenna mast, ground rod or cold water pipe)

Lightning arrestor (25-1300 MHz)

Guy wire (stranded galvanized wire, Radio Shack)

Guy wire mast clamps (clamp type, avoid ring type, Radio Shack)

Guy wire clamps/turnbuckles (used to tension and secure guy wires)

Screw eye bolts (1/4" x 3") nuts and washers (to fit screw eye bolts)

Roof sealant (standard roof sealant to seal holes drilled for screw eye bolts)

Duct or silicone sealant (to seal entry hole)

Cable clamps or nails (use EMT straps or coax nails from Radio Shack)

Feed through tube (used to pass coax through cinder block)

Rope (for hauling antenna and mast to roof)

Tools Required

Level

Wrenches

Pliers

Hammer

Screwdrivers

Razor knife

Wire cutters

Soldering iron and solder

Electric drill with long bit

* * *

We are most grateful to Ken Fowler for providing us with this fine profile of public safety communications systems in Fairfax City. Ken and I both hope this profile will inspire other readers to compile similar reports for their communities. Thanks Ken!

Due to space limitations, the Fairfax City police and fire 10 and signal codes have been omitted. If you desire a copy of the radio codes, kindly drop Ken or Alan a SASE, or download the listing directly from the FrequencyForum BBS.

MONITORING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CITY OF FAIRFAX

By FrequencyForum Co-Sysop Ken Fowler (KD4IIW)

Introduction

The City of Fairfax is an incorporated city located in Fairfax County. It sits at the crossroads of Routes 123 and 236. The city's population is approximately 20,000 at night and about 40,000 during the day. This can make for some busy monitoring during the day, but very slow during the evening. The city is at the geographic center of Fairfax County. The County Courthouse, Police Headquarters, and Fire & Rescue Department Headquarters are located in the city. It is also home to the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office and County Detention Facilities. This year other county agencies will move into their new facilities outside of the city.

City of Fairfax Police Department
(3730 Old Lee Highway)

453.9750 r F1: Dispatch/Operations
453.9750 s F2: Talk-around
460.0750 r F3: Detectives/FMO/Community Svcs
460.0750 s F4: Talk-around
460.0500 r F5: Alternate Disp/Ops
460.0500 s F6: Talk-around
453.5500 r F7: P-MARS Mutual Aid
453.5500 s F8: Talk-around

The CTCSS (PL) frequency for channels 1 through 6 is 131.8 Hz (P-MARS is 100.0 Hz). Police dispatchers have a link to all of the other city agencies via a new repeater channel on 490.4625. This gives the police dispatchers the ability to communicate even with the Water Treatment Plant in Loudoun County. Fairfax City Police Department dispatchers also have a radio link on 45.16, the City Transit Bus System (CUE) frequency.

The frequencies 460.375 and 494.3875 are currently licensed by the department but remain inactive. Formerly Fairfax City PD Channel 3, 460.375 was abandoned by Fairfax when Alexandria retained the frequency for MDT communication. Prior to switching to 453.975, 494.3875 was the police dispatch frequency.

The City Police have contracts for K-9 officers with the City of Falls Church and Fairfax County. They generally borrow a portable when they are on a track or searching a building. High ranking police officials have a cellular phone capability in their cruisers.

City of Fairfax Police Unit Designations

1 Chief of Police
2-3 Captains
10-20 Lieutenants
50-62 Sergeants (55 is a motor unit)
1xx Officer Class III
2xx Detectives
3xx Officers I/II (304, 309 and 312 are motor units)
4xx Animal Wardens
5xx Communications, Radio Service Technicians
6xx Communications
7xx Crossing Guards, Parking Enforcement Unit
801 Fairfax Sheriff Unit
802 Alcohol Beverage Control Unit
Fairfax K-9 Fairfax County PD Canine Units
Fairfax 1-3 Fairfax County Helicopters

Fairfax City and County Fire & Rescue

460.5750 r F1: Dispatch/Operations
460.6000 r F2: FMO Primary/Alt Firegnd
460.6250 r F3: Fireground/Mutual Aid
460.5500 r F4: Fireground
460.5250 r F5: Simulcasts F1
460.5750 s F6: Talk-around for F1 (tactical)
460.6000 s F7: Talk-around for F2 (tactical)
460.6250 s F8: Talk-around for F3 (tactical)
460.5500 s F9: Talk-around for F4 (tactical)
460.5250 s F10: Talk-around for F5 (tactical)
458.2500 s F11: Alternate and FMO Tactical
462.9500 d F12: MED Channel 9
463.1750 d F13: MED Channel 8
463.1500 d F14: MED Channel 7
463.1000 d F15: MED Channel 5
463.0750 d F16: MED Channel 4
154.2350 s (inactive - see note)
154.2800 s F-MARS (Base and Portable)
154.2950 s F-MARS (Dispatcher Only)
460.1750 r F1: MDT Data Channel (North Co)
460.3000 r F2: MDT Data Channel (South Co)

The CTCSS frequency for F1 through F11 is 94.8 Hz (the MED Channel CTCSS frequency is 173.8 Hz). All 911 calls are routed to the Fairfax County EOC which currently dispatches the Fairfax City fire stations. As a result, fire apparatus from the City of Fairfax utilize Fairfax County radio frequencies. At one time, however, the City of Fairfax actually dispatched itself on 154.235. After returning to county dispatching, city fire marshals operated for awhile on 154.235. 154.235 appears to be inactive but may be used by portable radios during special events. Fairfax City has its own fire marshals who identify as "FM 1 through 3" on the city police radio and as "FM 41 through 43" on the fire radio.

The VFD chief, Medic 33 and all City Fire Administration units have cellular phone capability. Half of the 100 or so Fairfax City Fire Department members are volunteer - on call 24-hours a day. The Volunteer Fire Department owns all of the city's fire apparatus.

City of Fairfax Fire Stations and Apparatus

Fire Station 3 4081 University Drive Fairfax

Engines 3 and 3R, Ambulances 3 and 3R, Truck 3, Foam Unit 3 ("Mr. Bubbles"), Utility 3, Chief 3, Assistant Chief 3 and Deputy Chief 3.

Chief 3 fills in as Battalion Chief 45 as necessary. Volunteers can put an engine and basic ambulance in service as Engine 3R and Ambulance 3R if needed.

Fire Station 33 10100 Lee Highway Fairfax

Engine 33, Medic 33 and Battalion 43.

Fire Prevention & Fire Chief 3700 Old Lee Highway Fairfax

EMS 9 EMS Captain

Photo 43 Public Information Officer

Unit Box Numbers

Box 3xx Co. 3's first due area in Fairfax County
Box 33xx Co. 33's first due area in Fairfax County
Box 43xx Co. 3's first due area in the City of Fairfax
Box 45xx Co. 33's first due area in the City of Fairfax

(Maps showing box areas are available from the Publications Sales Desk at the new Fairfax Government Center.)

Government and Public Works

45.1600	s	Transit Buses (CUE)
490.4625	r	DPW/Government Common
151.8050	s	Fairfax High School Security
154.9950	r	School Security/Maint. (Fairfax Co)
158.8800	i	Input to 154.995
855.9625	r	F1: School Bus Disp. (Fairfax Co)
855.9875	r	F2: School Bus Maint. (Fairfax Co)
453.6750	r	School Security MODAT (Fairfax Co)

The Water and Sewer Division uses 490.4625. They operate a water treatment facility on Goose Creek in Loudoun County. They also service customers in Herndon, Reston and Oakton (in Fairfax County). Fairfax City contracts its school maintenance, security and busing to Fairfax County Public Schools who operate in the city on the indicated frequencies. The CTSS (PL) frequency for the school bus operations is 107.2.

Fairfax County Sheriff's Office and Jail

490.2625	r	F1: Jail Operations
490.4125	r	F2: Jail Operations
39.5400	s	Statewide Interdepartmental Radio System

The Fairfax City Police contract jail facilities at the County Adult and Youth Detention facilities, both of which are located in the City of Fairfax.

* * *

As a professional writer, Brent thoroughly reads several newspapers each day searching for story ideas. We are very grateful to Brent for keeping a watchful eye out for news items which interest local scanner enthusiasts.

NEWSCAN

By Brent Baker

CAPITOL POLICE EXPAND: After months of bickering over the make-up of the Capitol Police Board, in late September the House and Senate finally agreed on a plan to expand the department's jurisdiction. The bill tripled the area in which the Capitol Police may patrol or arrest people. As described by the September 24 Washington Times, "The new area will extend from Third Street on the west side of the Capitol to Seventh Street on the east, and from H Street on the north to a jagged boundary around M Street on the south."

DON'T GET SICK IN DC: The District needs more ambulances in order to satisfy national response time standards. "DC ambulances currently reach a patient within eight minutes only about 45 percent of the time," Emergency Medical Services Bureau Director Robert Bass told the May 29 Washington Times. The national standard is 90 percent. "Dr. Bass said the city has 22 ambulances in service but needs 30 to 35 to reach the 90 percent goal. The bureau plans to add four more ambulances by fall and hire 50 paramedics to staff them."

P.G. CROOKS USE SCANNER: Members of a robbery ring credited with 18 burglaries of businesses in three counties were arrested by Prince George's County Police in late July. Dubbed the "Walkie Talkie" gang, police Lt. Alphonse Hawkins told The Washington Post: "One of the persons used a walkie-talkie and a police scanner on the outside and would tell the persons inside when it was safe to come out."

LOJACK COMING TO VIRGINIA: Lojack, a radio-based vehicle finding device, is coming to the Washington area. A September 22 Washington Post article stated: "Next spring...police in Northern Virginia are scheduled to begin using Lojack tracking equipment in some squad cars. Local governments in Maryland and the District also are considering adopting the system." Fairfax County will have 30 cars equipped.

Here's how the system works as described by the Post: "Lojack customers pay $595 to the company to install transmitters in inaccessible parts of their cars -- the company won't say where. The device is noted in police computers in states that take part in the program. If the theft of a Lojack-equipped car is reported, a police transmitter sends out a radio signal that activates the device hidden in the car. That device silently responds with a beacon signal that identifies the stolen car and allows police cruisers equipped with receiving gear donated by Lojack to home in on the car. Blinking lights on the police car dashboard inform officers which direction to take."

Lojack has been in use in my native Massachusetts since the late 1970s p73 where it operates on 173.075 (probably the same frequency intended for use in Northern Virginia). Lojack-equipped police cars are easy to spot -- they have four rooftop antennas arranged in a square about two feet apart.

DIGITAL CELLULAR ON THE WAY: In late June AGT Cellular of Canada inaugurated the first digitally-based cellular phone service. A June 27 Washington Post story reported that Washington's Cellular One and Bell Atlantic plan to introduce the service soon. According to the Post, "digital technology can raise by at least three times the number of calls that can be squeezed into the radio spectrum."

The Washington Times reported that "it adds privacy, because someone using a scanner near the phone would just hear a tone, not a voice." But the phones should cost twice the price of current analog sets, so as a marketing consultant told the Times, out of "8.8 million cellular phones in the United States this year and next, fewer than 600,000 are likely to be digital."

NFL HELMET RADIOS: You could soon hear Mark Rypien on your scanner as he issues plays. During an August Houston Oilers vs. New Orleans Saints pre-season match the tackles could hear their quarterback through helmet radios. Oilers equipment manager Gordon Batty told the Houston Chronicle: "It's a device -- a little power pack, more or less -- that's attached to the back of the shoulder pad and to the inside of the helmet. It's transmitted from the quarterback to the tackles. The tackles can hear the quarterback, but they can't talk back to him....It's always on because it's operated by a battery. You have to change the batteries every quarter." If all goes well, the radios will become standard equipment next season.

NEW UPS RADIOS: A brief May 12 AP story carried by The Washington Post summarized a United Parcel Service announcement: "By early 1993, 50,000 UPS delivery trucks will carry cellular equipment to send package-tracking data through the firm's new telecommunications network." The "$150 million project will include in-vehicle communications gear developed by Motorola Inc. and network services by McCaw Cellular Communications Inc., GTE Mobile Communications, PacTel Cellular and Southwestern Bell Mobile Systems." The article did not note whether UPS will be using already allocated 800 MHz frequencies or the long-discussed and fought over 220 MHz range.

RADIOS FOR COMPUTERS: "Nine phone companies and IBM forged a new alliance yesterday that will let laptop computer users gain access to data cheaply using the cellular phone system. The companies are building an industry standard for cellular communications based on technology that is four times faster than existing services," began a Reuters story in the April 23 Washington Times.

The technology, which transmits data in "digital bursts" on existing cellular systems, is based upon IBM's CulluPlaN IITM which "transmits data at a rate of 19,200 bits per second, four times the speed of computing technology." A Washington Post article the same day explained the potential uses: "Cab drivers could accept credit cards. Salespeople could communicate with home-office computers from customers' offices."

CAMCORDERS IN POLICE CARS: Putting video cameras in police cars to tape traffic stops is raising the ire of the ACLU, but is enthusiastically backed by police according to a May 24 Washington Times article. Reporter Frank Wolfe found "since November, when 22 Fairfax County officers began using the cameras in drunken-driving arrests, 250 drivers have been taped. Only six of those drivers have contested the charges."

Wolfe explained: "Local police officers are now using cameras donated by an insurance company and Mothers Against Drunk Driving. The cameras, mounted in cruisers, have sound fed through a wireless microphone worn by the officer. Some newer models are turned on by an officer's emergency lights and have the recording section stored in a bulletproof box in the trunk." The current camera count: "Metropolitan Police, Prince George's, Montgomery and Fairfax counties have six. Loudoun has five; Arlington has three; and Rockville, Herndon and Vienna have one each."

GREEN HORNET HORNS IN: Given the DC Fire Department's problem with unauthorized radio transmissions, how one Los Angeles man solved a similar problem might be of interest. Van Williams, the actor who played the Green Hornet in the 1966 television crime series, now owns six radio repeater stations used by LA area businesses. A May 27 Los Angeles Times article explained that "about five years ago Williams started hearing strange voices on his channels" talking about "parties and smoking pot."

Williams said "They captured one of my channels. They destroyed the frequency." The Times story continued: "When Williams got on the air himself to ask the voices to shut-up, he was threatened. On one occasion, 'they said they were going to come bomb my house, my office and the equipment up on Mt. Wilson,' Williams said." Williams lost several clients, including a Hollywood television production company and two delivery companies.

So, the Green Hornet went into action. With the help of a radio technician, he hit the streets in a van with radio direction-finding equipment. The technician "zeroed in on one of the unauthorized voices. He used a car phone to call for help when the suspect saw him and chased his antenna-laden van for four miles" until police arrested the suspect.

Police confiscated his radios and "discovered special sub-audible tone encoders used to activate Williams' mountain-top repeaters." The radio abuser contended "he harmed no one by talking on the radios, which he says already contained the encoding equipment when he bought them used at a swap meet." A local FCC official conceded they barely have time to investigate police and fire radio interference, never mind business radio.

* * *

BITS & PIECES

ANOTHER PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY SWITCHES TO A TRUNKED SYSTEM: Our friend at WUSA, Reporter Dave Statter, says the Arlington County EOC plans to move into a new facility during October. With the move to the new center, Arlington will switch police and fire communication to a trunked radio system - that's the bad news. The good

news is that Arlington intends to simulcast both the primary police and fire channels onto 453.825 and 154.13 respectively.

Here are the frequencies for Arlington County's trunked system. A number of county agencies, such as the Water Department and animal control, have been operating on the five ".4375" increments for a number of years. We hope to have more details regarding this system as they become available.

Arlington County Public Safety Trunked System (KNIQ704)

856.4375 857.4375 858.4375 859.4375 860.4375

856.4875 857.4875 858.4875 859.4875 860.4875

856.7625 857.7625 858.7625 859.7625 860.7625

856.9375 857.9375 858.9375 859.9375 860.9375

Besides the KNIQ704 trunked license, Arlington County Government holds a license for another trunked system. Unlike the KNIQ704 license, this license is for a leased radio common carrier system (apparently intended for the Animal Welfare League who formerly operated on the KNIQ704 system).

Arlington County Leased RCC Trunked System (KB33534)

861.9875 862.9875 863.9875 864.9875 865.9875

FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE: Fire Marshal Sean McClanahan, who was so kind to set-up the Fairfax EOC tour, provides us with some additional details on Fairfax Fire's radio system. As one might recall, it was only last summer that Fairfax County Fire officially placed Channel 5 into operation. The county added Channel 5, which simulcasts Channel 1, in an effort to fill-in many of the serious dead spots experienced by fire & rescue personnel. The county radio shop erected several new antenna sites to accommodate the new channels. The current channel numbers and sites appear below. All CTCSS frequencies are 94.8 Hz.

460.5750 r F1: Dispatch (Tysons Corner site)
460.6000 r F2: Fire Marshals (Fairfax)
460.6250 r F3: Fireground (Tysons Corner)
460.5500 r F4: Fireground (Fairfax)
460.5250 r F5: Simulcasts F1 (Alexandria)

SCANNER PAGER NOTIFICATION NETWORK? A number of scanner enthusiasts in the Washington area have long expressed interest in starting a pager notification network. Bruce Howard, with the assistance of Ken Mezger, are currently checking the feasibility of establishing such as system in Washington, DC. Many of the metropolitan areas in the upper northeast already have such a service available through Metromedia. We hope to have more details on this exciting possibility as soon as they become available.

TROUBLE IN OXON HILL: Just in case you missed the news reports, PGFD has a "new" fire station. Volunteers at Company 42 (Oxon Hill) demanded the county remove the career firefighters and county-owned fire apparatus from the volunteer-owned station. Frank Carson and Dave Statter inform us that the county established a temporary facility for the career firefighters at 6200 Oxon Hill Road. The new station, which identifies as Company 52, houses an ambulance and a reserve mini-pumper.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Date Event Contact

SAT, OCT 31 CHM MEETING See Below for Details

Sun, Nov 1 Mason Dixon Hamfest, Westminster, MD

Sun, Dec 6 HolidayFEST '92, Largo, MD

Next CHM Meeting Details

Come join us on Saturday, October 31 at the Hyattsville Library from 1 to 4 p.m. We'll hopefully have a guest speaker and some frequency lists to share. You'll find the library at 6530 Adelphi Road, near Prince George's Plaza, in Hyattsville, MD. Call Alan for additional details.

Newsletter Staff:

Alan Henney, General Editor and Acting Treasurer
Brent Baker, Newscan Editor
Mike Peyton and Dave Clark, Circulation
Bill Hardman, Proof & Layout

Published on a monthly basis, the Capitol Hill Monitor keeps scanner enthusiasts informed of local meetings, frequency profiles and other topics of interest to area scanner listeners. Dues (includes 12 issues) are $8.

Make checks payable to Alan Henney.

Please address all correspondence to Alan. We encourage readers to submit material and to write articles which relate to the hobby. Additionally, we welcome frequency and visitor requests, but kindly include a SASE.

Alan Henney 6912 Prince George's AvenueTakoma Park, MD 20912-5414(301) 270-2531 (voice) / 301-270-5774 (fax)

Meeting Coordinator:

Mike Peyton, Maryland Coordinator (703-902-6241)

Scanner-Shortwave Net on Two Meters:

The net, coordinated by Ken Fowler, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month on 146.91 MHz. For details write to Ken at 3511 Perry St., Fairfax, VA 22030.

Computer Bulletin Board:

We encourage computer users to log onto Jack Anderson's Frequency Forum computer BBS at 703-207-9622 (8-N-1). Frequency Forum is the official electronic gathering place for readers of the Capitol Hill Monitor!

Details of next meeting Inside !!!

CHM
6912 Prince George's Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20912-5414

SUBURBAN MD MSC 208 102392 2037 #12